



Day five

For the next 40 days we are offering us all a challenge to consider 40 things that are sucking the life out of us. The challenge is to examine these and through confronting God's word, his Spirit, and his community of faith as we seek to be filled with his life and his love again. At the conclusion of each challenge there will be an opportunity to engage about this with another person and/or the larger community.

Today the thing we are asking us to explore giving up is:

retirement.

Confronting the text

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: This applies to the Levites: from twenty-five years old and upwards they shall begin to do duty in the service of the tent of meeting; and from the age of fifty years, they shall retire from the duty of the service and serve no more. They may assist their brothers in the tent of meeting in carrying out their duties, but they shall perform no service. Thus, you shall deal with the Levites in assigning their duties, (Numbers 8:23-26).

But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace, (Acts 20:24).

Confronting my self with God

These two texts seem to be in opposition to each other.

On one level there is the word from God that the Levites (priests) are to work from 25 to 50, but then there is the counsel from Paul that he will do his work to the end.

What do you do with that?

Listening to God's people

To whom can I talk to sort this out?

In 2010 after an earthquake in Haiti Viviana Alvarez nearly quit her job to go and help. But perhaps that isn't the right call. Watch her TED Talk to see her story of near-miss with retirement.

https://www.ted.com/talks/viviana_alvarez_don_t_quit_your_job_use_it_for_good